

HOUSE BILL 2578  
By Ferguson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-8-102,  
relative to qualifications for office of sheriff.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-8-102(e), is amended by deleting  
subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(e)(2) If, pursuant to subdivision (e)(1), a person is elected to the office of sheriff, and  
the person does not possess a current and valid peace officer certification, upon taking office  
the salary of such person shall be twenty-five percent (25%) less than the salary of a person  
initially elected to the office of sheriff who does possess a current and valid certification;  
provided, that if during the first year in office, such person completes the recruit training program  
and obtains certification, the salary of such person shall, as a matter of law, automatically be  
raised the month following the date certification is obtained to the level of other persons initially  
elected to the office of sheriff who are certified. However, if such a person does not complete  
the recruit training program and obtain certification during the person's first year in office, then  
the following reduction in salary shall occur as a matter of law, until such person obtains  
certification:

(A) During the second year in office, the salary shall be thirty percent (30%) less than  
the salary of a first-term sheriff who is certified;

(B) During the third year in office, the salary shall be thirty-five percent (35%) less than  
the salary of a first-term sheriff who is certified; and

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(C) During the fourth year in office, the salary shall be forty percent (40%) less than the salary of a first-term sheriff who is certified.

Notwithstanding such salary schedule, the salary shall, as a matter of law, be automatically raised the month following the date certification is obtained to the level of a first-term sheriff who is certified.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.